

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/715,967	COTE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Sharidan Carrillo	1746	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**  
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/12/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-9, 11, 13-23 and 25.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>02/12/2004</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                                 | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

  
**SHARIDAN CARRILLO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gregory Cooper on 9/1/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Claim 1:**

Line 4, after "chelating agent" insert --, wherein the chelating agent is selected from the group consisting of phosphonic acids, aminopolycarboxylic acids, and mixtures thereof—

**Claim 2: Cancel**

**Claim 3:**line 2, delete "chelating agent" and insert –aminopolycarboxylic acid—

**Claims 10 and 12:** Cancel

**Claim 11:**

Line 1, delete "10" and insert –1—

Line 2, delete "treatment" and insert –post-treatment—

**Claim 13:**

Line 1, delete "10" and insert –1—

Line 2, delete "treatment" and insert –post-treatment—

**Claim 16:**

Line 1, delete "10" and insert –1—

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Line 2, delete “wherein subsequent to contacting the brass article with a treatment solution comprising an aqueous solution containing the azole, the brass article is contacted with water” and insert –further comprising the step of contacting the brass article with water after said post-treatment solution---

**Claim 20:**

Line 1, delete “further comprising the step of contacting the brass article with an” and insert – wherein the aqueous solution containing the azole further comprises—

line 3, after “percent” insert –by weight of a—

**Claim 21:** line 2, after “percent” insert –by weight of said—

**Claim 22:** line 3, after “percent” insert –by weight of said—

**Claim 23:**

After “further comprising the step of” delete “contacting the brass article with about 0.5 to about 5 percent benzotriazole solution being subsequent to a water rinse” and insert –rinsing the brass article with water prior to said post-treatment solution.—

**Claim 24:** Cancel

**Claim 25:** line 1, delete “24” and insert –23—

2. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach or suggest treating brass articles to reduce leachable lead by contacting with a primary treatment solution comprising a caustic solution containing a chelating agent selected from the group consisting of phosphonic acids, aminopolycarboxylic acids and mixtures thereof and contacting the brass articles with an aqueous solution containing an azole after the primary

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treatment solution. The closest prior art is that of Giusti which teaches using the azole in combination with an acidic solution before treatment with a caustic solution. In an interview with Mr. Gregory Cooper, on 09/01/2004, the examiner discussed correcting the 112, second paragraph issues in order to place the application in condition for allowance. Agreement and authorization was made to make the changes by Examiner's Amendment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The references cited are applicant's prior art directed to the method of treating brass.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharidan Carrillo whose telephone number is 571-272-1297. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 6:00a.m-2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael E. Barr can be reached on 571-272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sharidan Carrillo  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1746

bsc



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